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Final Report AFOSR Grant No. F49620-94-1-0013

Novel Composite Materials for Nonlinear Optics and Information Storage

by

Principal Investigator:
Nabil M. Lawandy
Professor of Engineering and Physics
Brown University
Providence, RI 02912-9104

April 15, 1997

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Summary of Accomplishments for the Grant Period 12/1/93 - 11/30/96

The work sponsored under this award resulted in the discovery of several important physical phenomena and the nucleating ideas behind three new technologies. Of particular importance was the discovery of laser action in strongly scattering media, a material now known as LaserPaint. This discovery has created a new field in optics which has an impact on light localization physics and many optical devices. The use of the technology in photodynamic therapy was awarded a Rolex Award in 1996.

In addition to this important discovery, the group showed how trapped photoexcited carriers in glasses could produce selective etching. This work led to the elucidation of the charge pattern responsible for glass SHG using atomic force microscopy. Use of the technique also resulted in the determination of the role of centers in this process. The method was also extended to produce binary optical elements using direct laser writing and complemented a third technology we developed which uses semiconductor doped glasses to directly fabricate surface features in glass.

In total, the group produced 36 publications, 24 conference presentations, and three patents based on this work. In addition, the grant support has made possible the research of four new Ph.D.'s over the past three years.

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- 2. Vartak, S., and Lawandy, N. M., "Electron Acceleration by Optical Rectification: Breaking the Attosecond Barrier," Paper No. QThC4, International Quantum Electronics Conference, Anaheim, CA, May 8-13, 1994.
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Ph.D. Students and Undergraduate Research

Gyeong-il Kweon Molecular Interactions in Electromagnetically Structured

Systems (1994)

Guy M. Beadie Picosecond Measurements of Photogenerated Carrier

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